



# KESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Newsletter 9 - July 2019 (Part 1)

### Minibus Drivers

Please note the excerpt from the March newsletter below:

*A number of the parents who give up their time to drive the school minibus on trips have children who have now reached year 6. We are therefore in great need of adults who are able and willing to volunteer their time and skill to enable the minibus to be used for our trips and sports matches. Drivers require a D1 licence (if you passed your test before 1 January 1997 this would be automatically added to your licence) and will also need to undertake a half day minibus driving training which will be arranged and financed by the school. Please give your contact details to the office if you are able to support the school in this way.*

We have as yet had little response to this plea for help. If we are unable to find volunteer minibus drivers we will not be able to use the minibus for school trips next year which will mean an increase in costs for all parents.

### Book Fair

Thank you to all the children and parents who visited our recent school book fair; we raised over £700 which we can spend on books for the school and class libraries. We will also be able to use some of the books from this company for our new guided reading lessons (VIPERS) which are being introduced in September.

### Monitoring your Children

I have a number of times previously reminded parents that before and after school they are responsible for their children on the playground and thus need to monitor their behaviour. I am sad to report that we received a complaint that children who had been picked up from the school were throwing stones from the grass area by the trim trail onto the road – I am sure you all realise the damage this could cause not just to property but also to passers-by. This would not have occurred if these children had been in sight of their responsible adult.

Can I also take this opportunity to once again remind you that children (of any age) should not be riding scooters or bikes across the playground; with the number of adults and children in the space at this time an accident is bound to occur!

### Swimming Competitions

On Wednesday 19th June we were invited to Trinity School for a friendly swimming gala against Royal Russell and Trinity. We took two teams and we finished in 1st place and 3rd place and we therefore became overall winners.

Congratulations to the following children who were a credit to the school:

Jessica Hardy  
Sienna Patel  
Sabella Parkinson  
Sky Brooke D'Costa-Stephenson

Lily Croft  
Rebecca Franks  
Chloe Smith  
Violet Stewart



### **After School Club – September 2019**

Planning for the new after school provision is well underway and we have had a good response from parents who wish to use the provision. We are able to take up to 30 children in a session and some days are already nearly full. If you wish to register your child for the club please contact the school office for the relevant details and registration forms.

### **Staffing for September**

I know from experience we are at the time of year when children (and their parents) are undertaking a guessing game as to who their teachers will be next year). This information will as always be given out with the reports which will be issued on Friday. However in the meantime I would like to inform you of some changes to staff for the next academic year.

Mr Phil Edmonds, having been with us for 15 years, has decided to retire from teaching – he tried to do this a few years ago but we enticed him back with a part time role! We wish him an enjoyable and well deserved retirement.

Mr Andrew Turner will be transferring to New Valley Primary (part of the Academy Trust) as a class teacher with additional responsibility; I am sure you will join me in congratulating him on his promotion.

Miss Nixon will be leaving us as she is moving to be with family in a different area of London; we thank her for her work over the last couple of years and wish her well.

We say thank you to Mrs Goulden who has completed her year contract with us and will be continuing with her own business going forward.

Our final leaver is Mrs Di Mark who is retiring after 23 years at the school. Mrs Mark has undertaken a variety of roles; lunchtime supervisor; aiding the school office; teaching assistant; and over the last few years Learning Mentor. During her time here, particularly in her Mentor role, Mrs Mark has provided invaluable social, emotional and learning support for a large number of children. She will be greatly missed but we hope that she will drop in and see us all many times over the coming years. We wish her and her family well.

I am pleased to let you know that due to the staff leaving us we were able to offer teaching positions to both Miss Megan Slater and Miss Georgia Clarkson who have been our Schools Direct students this year. They have both very successfully completed their training and we are very happy to welcome them to our permanent staff.

Miss Lauren Bagridge, who some of you will know from her time in year 5 this year, will be joining us in September together with Mrs Dominique Newport who is transferring from a school in Kent. We look forward to welcoming them both to the school.

We will also once again have two Schools Direct students who will be at the school for the majority of the year, these are Miss Rebecca Boyd and Mr Tom Harris.

I will issue a further newsletter next week which will include team sports results, staffing allocations and the destinations of your year 6 leavers.

Kind regards



Mrs Claire Murphy  
Headteacher